

COMPARISON OF DNA INVOLVING SHINABARGER AND POTENTIAL DOZEN S's COUSINS

Understanding DNA and its significance is not an easy task. I am far from an expert. Within this report and subsequent updates, because DNA research is never finished, I will attempt to explain what has been discovered and confirmed as a result of autosomal and Y-DNA tests. This will also include a certain level of prognostication. Who were the earliest Shinabargers, from where did they originate, and how are the families of the Dozen S's connected?

To get the most from this report, I suggest you read at least chapters/generations one and two of the Shinabarger histories. Each will give you additional insight into the families who will be discussed here.

Main points concerning DNA:

1. Autosomal DNA reflects DNA from all four of your grandparents. We carry a varying percentage of about 25% from each. You share small amounts with distant cousins of your 7X great-grandfather. You share identical chromosomes of differing lengths with your relatives. You can share 3600cM with your child, 1900 with a nephew, 1100 with a first cousin, or 34cM with a 4th-6th cousin who is a total stranger. All of them are related to you whether you know them or not. With Y-DNA, matching becomes a degree of genetic distance, GD, in your male line. The further the GD, the more distant the relationship. I will include a graphic below for a deeper understanding (pg 3). As in all things DNA, there is no simple explanation. Eventually, ancestors, are beyond the established use of surnames and/or record keeping.
2. Each tested person, even if you are brothers, will inherit slightly different autosomal mixtures. However, as I personally discovered, if known relatives share much less than expected, these results are disclosing an anomaly in, not the DNA, but the family research.
3. Y-DNA tests only the male line. Regardless of surname, the male line is traced.
4. DNA, especially Y-DNA, is like a roll of the dice. It changes slowly, but you never know WHEN. We are talking mutations over generations, not years, but there are exceptions even here.
5. Both types of tests disclose an estimation of ethnicity. There is variability as everyone inherits differing amounts of DNA from ancestors but if a grandparent was Native American, if both descendants are grandchildren of that person, both will show a percentage of Native American.
6. A key to confirming relationships is through triangulation. If Person A is a great-great-grandchild of Person B, and regardless if you know Person A or not, if you are matching DNA with Person A and you believe Person B to be your own great-great-grandparent, then the DNA results are confirming that relationship. Triangulation helps both parties to confirm and discover relatives.
7. Accurate family research is vital. Just because there is a family tree online does not mean it must be accurate. I began to publish the Shinabarger Family History in 1996. It was based upon the research of my mother and other ladies that were attempting to link the Dozen S's. Since that time, much of the information I have seen, including old photos, are replicants of what came from

my mother's research. Therefore, if my mother was wrong, so too everyone who just accepted their research. Case in point: the conjecture among these ladies was that Mehetable Shinabarger was a Murdock. Recent documentation from another researcher has proven she was a Murdock; it also proved that Mehetable was a second wife to John Shinabarger.

So, a lesson on triangulation here: Ashland John's descendants will share no DNA relationships to the family of Mehetable. They will share DNA with John's first wife, whoever she may be. Their matches could lead to the discovery of who this woman was. However! Those descendants of John's son (James) who married a daughter of Mehetable Murdock will show relationships with Murdocks. All descendants of James S. Shinabarger and Elizabeth Murdock will carry slight amounts of autosomal DNA from both the Murdock and Crofoot families. DNA matches are proving this relationship to be accurate!

8. A genealogical time frame is the period in which it is possible to find records relating to individual ancestors that allow the researcher to construct family trees based upon documents rather than rumor. When referring to genetic distance and "recent genealogical times" think in terms of the last one to six generations, a generation being an average of 30 years. A "distant genealogical time frame" translates to the last one to fifteen generations, or about 450 years. One is extremely fortunate to trace back one's family tree beyond seven to nine generations. From me to John Shinabarger, it is seven generations, about 180 years.
9. The more distant the relationship, the harder it will be to place, especially when using autosomal DNA. I have made it habit to trace allied families as much as possible. I can recognize the names of 4th-6th cousins, particularly if given the name of a grandparent. I am then able to make connections and triangulate relationships. Y-DNA is for the specific tracing of the male surname even if spelled differently, assumed, or adopted.
10. The deeper the Y-DNA testing, the better the results. There are currently 111 chromosomes being tested. Just as a higher number of shared cM indicates a closer relationship between two people autosomally tested, the more Y markers shared the closer the relationship. A father and son should match 111 of 111. Depending upon when a mutation occurred, a great-grandfather may share only 110 with a great-grandson. However, if one shares but 78 of 111 chromosomes, these two males have not sharing an ancestor since long before the Stone Age.
11. DNA is not infallible but the science does not lie. Obviously, if you birthed your son and the DNA shows differently, one needs to test again. However, sorry to say, if your cousin does not prove to be sharing an expected amount of DNA, testing another cousin, or asking *the big question*, might show that there was an anomaly. Anomaly means there is a story there of which you were unaware. Be mindful, DNA science is good and family historical research may be flawed.

*Genetic Distance for Y-DNA

	Y-DNA37	Y-DNA67	Y-DNA111	Interpretation
Very Tightly Related	0	0	0	Your exact match means your relatedness is extremely close. Few people achieve this close level of a match. All confidence levels are well within the time frame that surnames were adopted in Western Europe.
Tightly Related	1	1-2	1-2	Few people achieve this close level of a match. All confidence levels are well within the time frame that surnames were adopted in Western Europe.
Related	2-3	3-4	3-5	Your degree of matching is within the range of most well-established surname lineages in Western Europe. If you have tested with the Y-DNA37 test, you should consider upgrading to additional STR markers. Doing so will improve your time to common ancestor calculations.
Probably Related	4	5-6	6-7	Without additional evidence, it is unlikely that you share a common ancestor in recent genealogical times (one to six generations). You may have a connection in more distant genealogical times (less than 15 generations). If you have traditional genealogy records that indicate a relationship, then by testing additional individuals you will either prove or disprove the connection.
Only Possibly Related	5	7	8-10	It is unlikely that you share a common ancestor in genealogical times (one to 15 generations). Should you have traditional genealogy records that indicate a relationship, then by testing additional individuals you will either prove or disprove the connection. A careful review of your genealogical records is also recommended.
Not Related	6	>7	>10	You are not related on your Y-chromosome lineage within recent or distant genealogical times (one to 15 generations).

The more people who test, the more one can triangulate results making matches and identifying a common ancestor. Finding out his or her name is an entirely different challenge.

DNA RESEARCH GOALS

Some of my goals may have changed over the past few years. What once was a search for ethnicity, early origins and curiosity has evolved into the search for answers to the history of the family. I love history, travel and research. These interests led to a search for how our family fit into the history of the world. As DNA became more prevalent, it became a means of researching origins. Using the National Geographic Project, Family Tree DNA, YFull, MyHeritage, 23andMe, and Ancestry, testing and analysis have resulted in a vast amount of information from sharing 1.5% DNA with Neanderthals and understanding my people exited the Great Rift Valley of East Africa some 70,000 years ago, to the realization I do share DNA with people on the Mayflower and I am most definitely related to John Shinabarger, my 4X Great-Grandfather.

1. A goal continues to be the linking of the various lineages of the John Shinabarger descendants. To complete this task requires a descendant of each of his 8 children to test DNA. (Currently 5 of 8 have tested.)
2. A major goal is to genetically link the various Dozen S Surnames. It has long been conjectured that the families of Shinabarger, Shinaberry, Shanabarger and other Ss share a common ancestor.
3. If the right connection can be made, we may at long last know from where and from whom John Shinabarger 1764 is descended.

I will present here a summary of what is known at this time. I will try to limit the conjecture. I may know these relationships exist but I do not know positively how. Those who love a puzzle, I welcome you to the challenge of science and how it plays out in history.

SHINABARGER HAPLOGROUP

Haplogroups represent a genetic population of people who share a common ancestor. Each is assigned letters of the alphabet and refined using numbers and letters as mutations occur over the millennia. By using a relatively small proportion of genetic material, scientists can link you to groups of people of the same haplogroup. This research has been in progress for decades. One notable project is the Human Genome Project which studies human DNA. With this advancement in knowledge, the National Geographic Genographic Project, launched in 2005 and led by anthropologists, tracks the deep ancestry of shared genetic roots and the historical migration of Man. Through this study, researchers can determine if, once exiting Africa, your ancestors turned left or right. It can also be fun to learn that in your deep-deep anthropological ancestry you share DNA with ancestors of Marie Antoinette or Napoleon. I will post three Genographic project reports for those interested in learning more.¹

Haplogroups are unique to each parent and inherited by their children. The male haplogroup remains the same from grandfather to father to son. It does not change. The mother passes on her haplogroup to her daughters who will pass it on to their daughters. All sons inherit the maternal haplogroup of his biologic mother. You share the same maternal haplogroup with your siblings if you have the same biological mother; your cousins have a different maternal haplogroup. Half-siblings may also have different haplogroups.

To be on a direct line of ancestry, we MUST be members of the same Haplogroup. This is true for both males and females. To be a member of the John Shinabarger haplogroup, any male Shinabarger, regardless of spelling, must test as

R1b

The R Haplogroup is one of the most common types throughout Europe and South and Central Asia. Its age is estimated to be around 25,000 years old. R1b is common and geographically widely spread. However, as the testing deepens, more can be discerned.

The deeper the testing, the more specific this becomes. Shinabarger, testing at the highest level possible at this time, results in a haplogroup of

R1b1a2a1a2a1b

With end SNPs at R-FT89571 > R-FT165089

We are members of a subclade/subgroup most often found in males from Western Europe, especially in Western France, Northern Spain, Great Britain and Ireland. With each additional step in the evolution of R1b, more specificity results. Geographical DNA projects are busy tracing these branches.

I know that may be haplogroup overkill but just keep in mind, if you are going to be in this Shinabarger lineage, males must test in the R Haplogroup. Let's say you test in the E Haplogroup. You are not related to our Shinabarger ancestor. Let's say you test R1b2. You are in the same general haplogroup but a common ancestor made a separate turn several millennia ago. If your testing shows the same haplogroup and end SNP, there is no doubt we share a common ancestor. When? Unknown in many cases.

¹ This only applies to females who tested. The Genome Project is no longer testing.

SHINABARGER ETHNICITY

When considering ethnicity, always consider all great-grandparents. Each has made some contribution to your autosomal ethnicity. Siblings will be similar IF they share the same biologic parents, grandparents etc. Each generation varies slightly as additional ancestors are introduced. As an example, my grandfather shared the ethnicity of all his Shinabarger ancestral males, but his autosomal results differ from his half-siblings because of a second marriage and an introduction of Native American ancestry. Each of us has a personal result when examining ethnicity. Y-DNA, ethnicity only follows your male line.

Generally, Shinabarger ethnicity for males should reflect an emphasis on Germanic Europe, probably in the range of 40-60%. With my Jacob Shinabarger line, not only was Shinabarger coming out of that area, but so did Heller, Dietz, Schlundt and Pöhl. Doud, Spears and Carter added some English into my mix. So how to explain my 12% Norwegian? Or a little Swedish and from the Balkans? We are all mongrels of our contributing ancestors. So, while it is difficult to say “this is our ethnicity” we can postulate with a degree of confidence that our Shinabarger ancestors originated out of Germanic Europe. That definition includes a HUGE expanse of territory but research will tighten it...eventually. Suffice to say, Shinabarger has recent German/Prussia origins, originating somewhere between the Dutch and German lowlands along the North Sea through uplands to the Swiss and Austrian Alps in the south - probably.

PURPOSE FOR BIG Y-700 TESTING

DNA testing is like Apple's iPhone, there are always new developments and upgrades to covet.

The current *ultimate* in testing is the Big Y-700 - the most powerful tool to discover your recent genealogical connections with other males and the bigger picture of your paternal line through thousands of years of human history. It is the **ONLY** way to find where males place on the human genetic tree. Y37-Y111 results are okay at showing **WHO** you are related to in the last 1,000 years (and sometimes even more), but **NOT WHEN** you were related and surnames may differ. Y111 allows for refinement of existing matches, but generally gives you less precise data concerning origin and timeline.

Two males who may seem very distant can be as close as a few hundred years. That is because the Y-marker DNA tests look for mutations that are somewhat random and unstable, and can mutate randomly at any time, even father to son. This can confuse when your connection may be.

HOWEVER, Big Y tests a different kind of mutation that is very stable, and indicates a specific common line of ancestry. As a result, a researcher is able to understand how, when, and where different families are connected to each other. As the Haplotree is developed, the more specificity it will show.²

This deeper testing discloses Private Variations. These are mutations not shared between branch members. If members average a higher number of these, it is likely that a new branch of the tree will be formed, indicating a mutation among the group that would place them as a “brother branch.” It also indicates which branch members you are closest in relationship to. In our case, the Private Variant is an average of 1. We are showing very little difference among the genetic DNA of our tested S men.

² Currently, six S men have contributed to the results with Big Y-700 DNA.

For me as an historian, one exciting aspect is I can then make timeframe estimates, look at what historical events were happening, and see if they explain the migration routes our ancestors took. And someday, a male from the ancestral country will test which may help to prove a more specific geographic origin. Big Y is also helping to see whether certain stories about families are true, and we now know that many of them have been disproven by looking at the results. As more men test around the world, researchers will continue to progress down the branches of the Haplotree into more recent historical times.

For the novice, attempting to determine dates for the Bronze Age, etc. is near impossible. Pre-History/historical periods were based upon a civilization's age of development, for example, replacing the use of stone tools during the Stone Age and mastering the use of bronze, ushering in the Bronze Age. Different human societies entered the Bronze Age at different times; it arrived earlier in the ancient civilizations of the Near East around 3300 BC to move slowly north and west across Europe to reach Britain between 2100-750BC.

Beginning around the 8th century BC, Europe and Britain progressed into the Iron Age. The great Classical Antiquity period was to appear circa 8th century BC thru 6th century AD and led to the rise of our classical age – think of the flourishing Greco-Roman world.

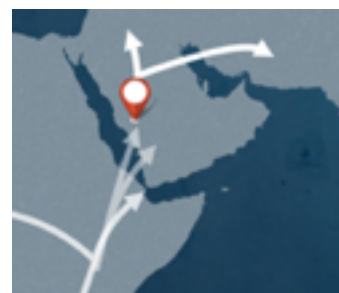
Middle Ages followed from about the 5th to 15th century, beginning with the collapse of the Roman Empire in 476. The Late Middle Ages was a time of immense change and ushered in the Renaissance of the 15th and 16th centuries. Everything since is modern history and much more familiar.

When speaking of ethnicity and our ancestor's path that led to you, these ages are good to keep in mind. Using DNA results, one can trace ancestors from the dawn of Man. We can simplify his/her journey in a few paragraphs but our ancestors took several thousands of years to get to our present.

National Geographic Genographic Project explores deep anthropological ancestry. DNA places you on a specific branch of the human family tree dating as far back as 200,000 years ago and traces the migratory paths of your ancestors up to a more recent past. Big Y-700 tests, a developing Haplotree, and paper research can carry us along a migratory path to you. The common direct paternal ancestor of all men alive today was born in Africa between 300,000 and 150,000 years ago. For male lineages, our early branch was one of the first to leave the African homeland.

From there, it gets personal.

Some 80,000 years ago, our ancestor probably lived in northeast Africa in the region of the Rift Valley, perhaps Ethiopia, Tanzania or Kenya. His descendants became the only lineage to survive outside of Africa, making him the common ancestor of every non-African man living today. Members of this lineage were some of the earliest settlers in Asia, Southeast Asia, and Australia. The first migrants likely ventured across the Bab al-Mandab strait, a narrow body of water at the southern end of the Red Sea, crossing from Abyssinia/Ethiopia onto the Arabian Peninsula perhaps 65,000 years ago. Many of this group would remain in the Middle East, Southwest and Central Asia for several millennia.





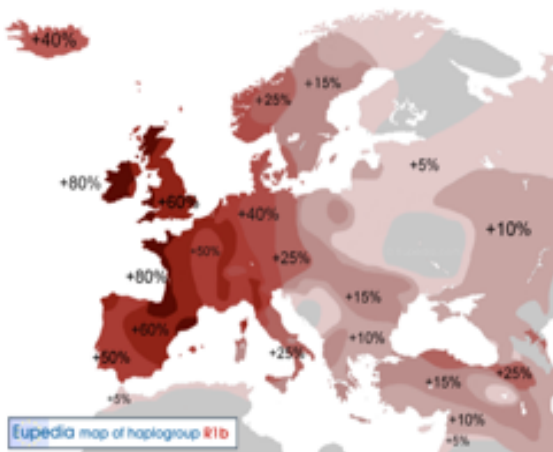
Around 27,000 years ago, the first man to carry our Haplogroup R was born in North or Central Asia. He remained in Central and South Asia during the Stone Age. This haplogroup has been identified in the remains of a 24,000-year-old boy from a region in south-central Siberia. He belonged to a tribe of mammoth hunters that may have roamed across Siberia and parts of Europe during the Stone Age.

About 17,000 - 22,000 years ago, our lineage lived as hunter-gatherers on the open savannas that stretched from Korea to Central Europe. They took part in the advances in hunting technology that allowed for population growth and expansions. Some traveled west across Europe.



Three branches of R1b1 all stemmed from the Middle East. Our northern branch, R1b1a seems to have migrated by a more circuitous, longer route around the Caucasus, eastern Anatolia or northern Mesopotamia, then crossed over the Caucasus, from where they would have invaded Europe and Central Asia.³

By the Early Bronze Age, 4000 years ago, our male ancestor had arrived into Central and Western Europe and became members of the most common haplogroup found in Western Europe.



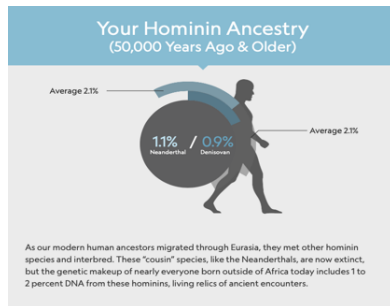
R1b Haplogroup Frequency

The southern branch (SRY2627) commonly includes Iberia and southwestern France. We are negative for this branch. Instead, Shinabarger males test positive for the northern branch of our Haplogroup. In fact, Big Y tests have eliminated many regions. Of the areas where our parent Y16965 DNA (4000 years old) is most common, Shinabargers have tested negative for groups who went to the UK, Ireland, France, and Iberia. Our parent Haplogroup Y16965 spawns a child who is found in Britain; we are negative for this group.

An entirely new, separate group, **us**, is created maybe 3000 years ago and our ancestor appears to remain in Northern Europe. This component of our ancestry is found at highest frequency in northern European populations, people from Denmark, Finland, Russia and Germany. It is found at lower frequencies throughout the rest of the U.K. and Europe. In other words, our group ended up in relatively the same area but by a much more circuitous route. And our ancestor's DNA became unique! The only matching males, so far, are our Ss.

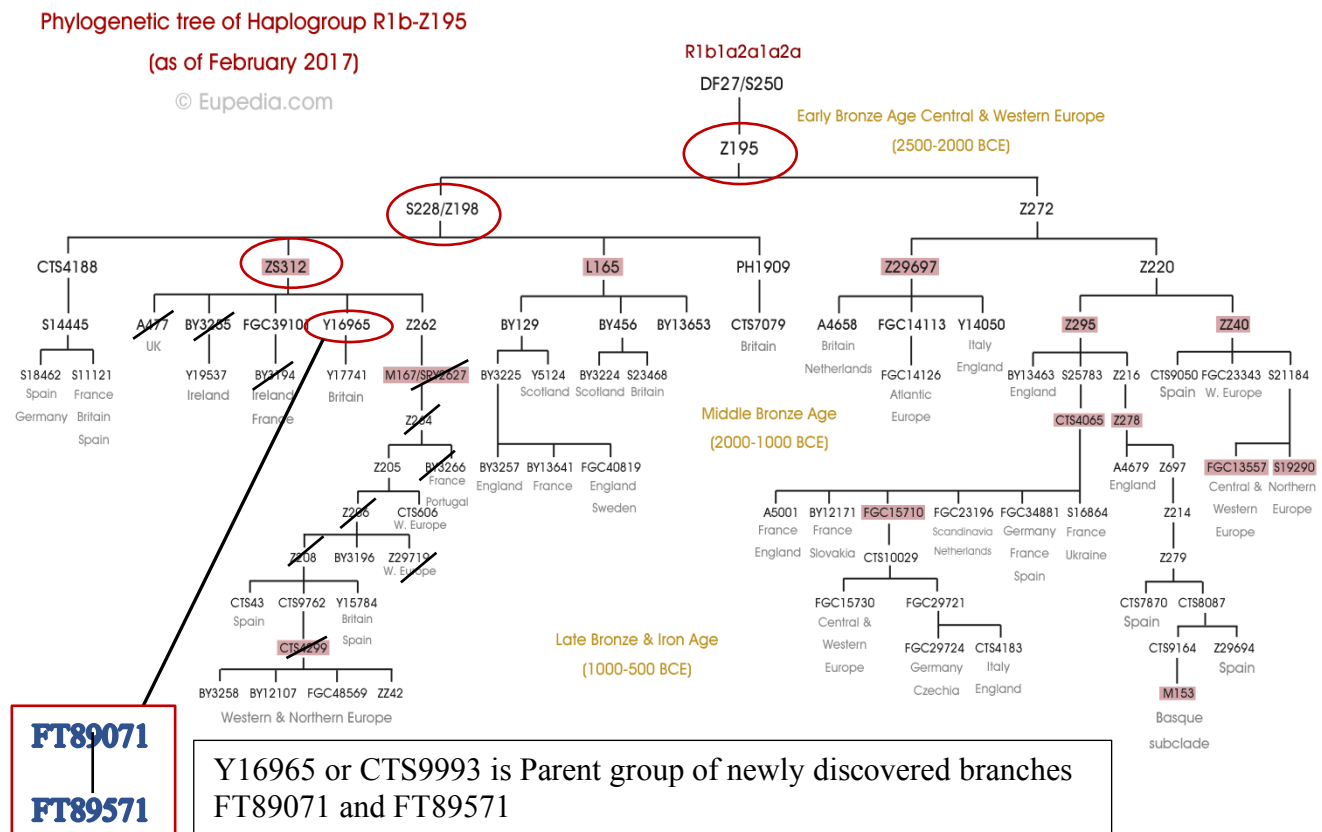
³ Central Asia is a region which stretches from the Caspian Sea in the west to China and Mongolia in the east, and from Afghanistan and Iran in the south to Russia in the north. The region consists of the former Soviet republics of the *Five Stans*, encompassing an immense area of territory.

FYI: When our ancestors first migrated out of Africa around 70,000 years ago, they were not alone. At least two other species of hominin cousins walked the Eurasian landmass: Neanderthals and Denisovans. As our modern human ancestors migrated through Eurasia, they encountered these hominin cousins and interbred, resulting in a small amount of Neanderthal and Denisovan DNA being introduced into the modern human gene pool.



Most non-Africans are about 2 percent Neanderthal and slightly less than 2 percent Denisovan. Both percentages are calculated using a sophisticated analytical method that looks at parts of your DNA that you share with these hominin populations. At left is one Shinabarger result.

In the following schematic, the red circles follow the Shinabarger/S lines of their Haplotree. All males tested for Big Y agree as they migrate down the branches of their ancestry; any male in this group, regardless of surname, continues to share this same ancestor. Black lines are those branches that tested negative and therefore not our migration path. A major goal is to determine the age of FT89571. At that time all the Ss men shared the same ancestor.

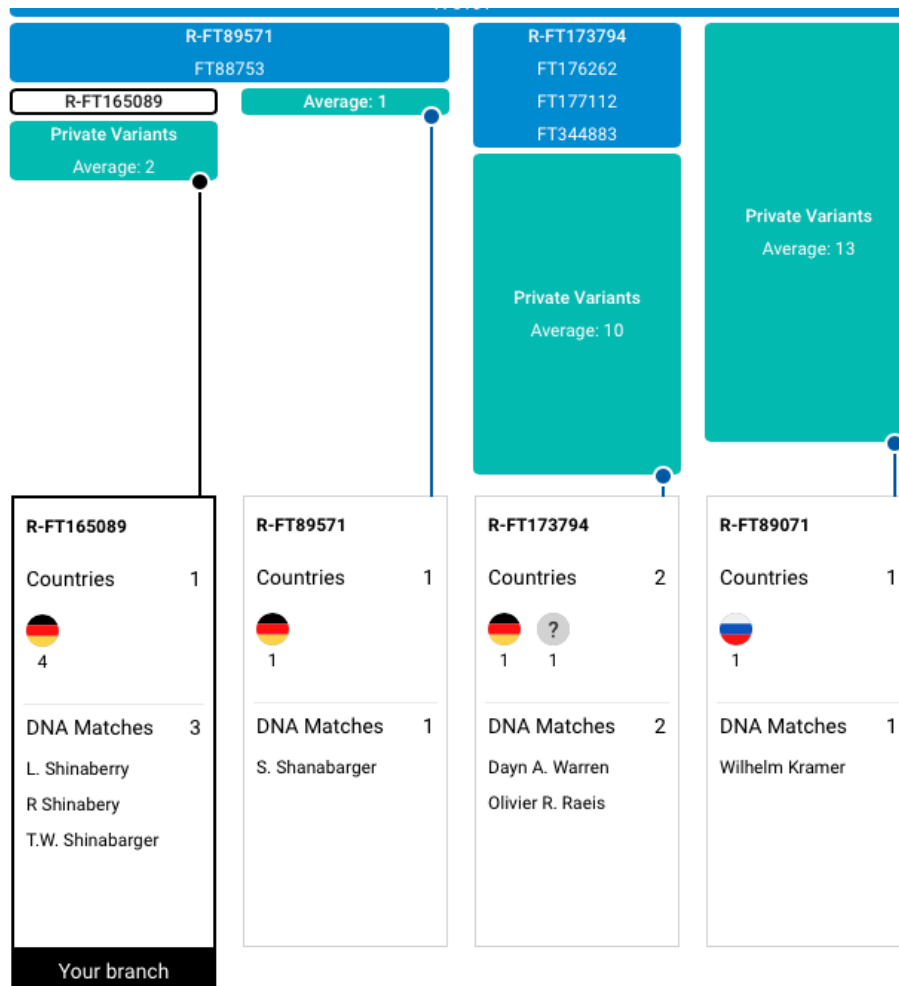


Branches of the Haplotree provide a more detailed look at where recent ancestors settled in their migratory journey. What is meant by recent? It could vary from several hundred years ago to a few thousand years ago, depending on how much scientists currently know about a particular haplogroup.

BIG Y CHART

The Big Y chart continues to evolve as more men test.

Recent developments show a variance with FT89571 has resulted in Shanabarger splitting from the other S men sometime in the past. Currently, there are 5 men within the FT165089 branch - 3 Shinabarger, a Shinaberry and a Shinabery. There are several of us trying to figure out how Warren/Israel and Raeis might enter the mix.



RESULTS AND REVELATIONS

Because this can get incredibly complicated, I will try to keep this simple, keeping in mind the three main goals for this project's DNA testing: linking our John Shinabarger descendants and proving all the decades of paper research, linking the Dozen S surnames, and finding possible links to the ancestor who emigrated to America over 300 years ago.

1. Linking our John Shinabarger descendants and proving the paper research that has been done over the decades. To complete this task is to have a descendant of each of his 8 children test DNA.

There is no doubt that the Shinabarger and S men and women who have tested DNA are descendants of a common ancestor. And there is strong agreement that the John Shinabarger 1764 descendants are genetically related. Just using Ancestry autosomal testing as a source, of Ashland John's children, descendants of Jacob, Susanna, John, James S., and Rebecca have tested. There is a solid occurrence of relationships among them with over 180 matches.⁴ They claim Shinabarger 1764 as their Most Recent Common Ancestor.* This is a good indication that the Shinabarger research is correct. The only lines with no testing are with son Joseph C. and the two daughters Mary and Nancy.

*A Most Recent Common Ancestor, or MRCA, is the point in one's ancestry where you and your match first share a common relative. This obviously varies with any two people. The important thing is that all the arrows lead back to John Shinabarger.

Y-DNA also supports our relationships but there are fewer testers. The Y-DNA males tested are descendants of Jacob, John and James. More tests are desired. A male Y-DNA test from each line of John's four sons would conclusively connect all our Shinabarger men to John.

NOTE: Some Y-DNA markers mutate faster than others. Analyzing exactly which markers differ can assist in following relationships but this gets into more than even I want to sort. I will stick with comparing genetic distances of the subjects tested. Suffice to explain, when comparing markers, these changes can help place family into closer relationships. For example: one man (Shinabery) is unique with a mutation at YCAII which the others do not share. Another (Shanabarger) is unique and shares DYS389ii with no other subject. My line of Shinabarger (Jacob) is unique with mutations at DYS570 and CDY; others of this specific lineage should show this same mutation. The two Shinabarger cousins of the James Shinabarger line both have a mutation at Y-GATA-H4, which no other subjects show. Not only is this unique but a slower marker to mutate. All the males in this particular line should show this same mutation. However, markers can and do randomly mutate and I have seen 2nd cousins display a mutation just in the two generations that separate them.

FTDNA, thankfully, can look at these markers, mathematically determine rapidity of mutation, and compute a predicted probability of when we shared a common ancestor. Sharing a similar surname could indicate an even closer relationship.

⁴ There are many more than these. Inheriting differing amounts of DNA, you may match a 4th cousin but not match each match your cousin makes.

Tables below refer to the Genetic Distance of subjects. First table reports results for those who have only tested 37-markers - second table those who have completed 111-markers. Testing all men at 111-markers is a goal as this lever better reflects the genetic distance of the men. (Big-Y further clarifies relationships.) Refer to a table on GD on pages 3 or 13 for explanation.

Descendants of Jacob Shinabarger: Keith, Jim (in lab), RH (in lab), Travis (in lab), Ethan (in lab)

Descendants of James Shinabarger: Mitchell, T.W.

Descendants of John Shinabarger: Arthur

Y-DNA 37 GD	Keith Shinabarger R-FT165089	Jim Shinabarger R-M269	RH Shinabarger R-M269	Travis Shinabarger R-M269	Ethan Shinabarger R-M269
K. Shinabarger	-		2		3
Jim Shinabarger		-			
RH Shinabarger	2		-		3
Travis Shinabarger				-	
Ethan Shinabarger	3		3		-
M. Shinabarger	4		4		1
T.W. Shinabarger	4		4		1
Arthur Shinabarger	4		4		1
Lewis Shinaberry	5				2
Rick Shinabery	4				2
Sean Shanabarger	4		4		1
Earl Shinabarger I-M253	27				
EW Schoneberger R-M269	12/12				
Willard Schoenberger R-Z198	17 39/111				

Currently, as of Oct 1, 2020, 4 men have tested only 37-markers, 7 men have tested 111-markers, and 6 men are Big-Y tested. It is planned to expand additional tests to 111-markers and additional men for the Big-Y.

When a Genetic Distance of 0 is found, there is little reason to do deeper testing. Mitchell is a GD of 0 from his first cousin (1C1R) T.W. Therefore, it is assumed Mitchell would be placed within the identical R-FT165089 haplogroup if he were to be tested for the Big Y.

Of more importance, and more telling results, are the 111-marker test. Again, we consider the Genetic Distance and the end Haplogroup to determine relationship and potential distance of a shared ancestor.

Y-DNA 111 GD	Keith Shinabarger R-FT165089	Jim Shinabarger R-M269	RH Shinabarger R-M269	Travis Shinabarger R-M269	Ethan Shinabarger R-M269	Mitchell Shinabarger R-M269	T.W. Shinabarger R-FT165089	Arthur Shinabarger R-M269	Lewis Shinaberry R-FT165089	Rick Shinabery R-FT165089	Sean Shanabarger R-FT89571
K. Shinabarger	-					4	4	5	6	7	6
Jim Shinabarger		-	-								
RH Shinabarger		-	-								
Travis Shinabarger				-							
Ethan Shinabarger					-						
M. Shinabarger	4					-	0	3	4	5	4
T.W. Shinabarger	4					0	-	3	4	5	4
Arthur Shinabarger	5					3	3	-	5	6	5
Lewis Shinaberry	6					4	4	5	-	5	6
Rick Shinabery	7					5	5	6	5	-	7
Sean Shanabarger	6					4	4	5	6	7	-
Willard Schoenberger R-Z198	39										

I make the offer to arrange testing for any Shinabarger male descendant of John H. or Joseph C.

2. A second goal is to genetically link the various Dozen S Surnames. It has always been conjectured that the families of Shinabarger, Shinaberry, Shanabarger and other variations of the spelling share a common ancestor.

I have concentrated Y-DNA testing here. Our *Elusive Patriarch*, discussed in Chapter One of our history, has been a subject of conjecture among genealogists for decades. Many theories were researched and proposed. It is through Y-DNA testing that these theories are being proven, or disproven. Again, refer to the table below for the meaning of the GD references.

NOTE: Dozen S variations of surname: SCHAMBERGER, SCHELLENBERGER, SCHOENBERGER, SCHÖENBERGER, SCHONEBERGER, SHOENBERGER, SHAMBERGER, SHENBERGER, SCHÖNENBERGER, SHANABARGER, SHELLENBERGER, SHENABARGER, SHENBERGER, SHENBERRY, SHENEBERGER, SHINEBARGER, SHINABARGER, SHINABERGER, SHINABERRY, SHINABERY. Just to name a few!

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Only Possibly Related	5	7	8-10	It is unlikely that you share a common ancestor in genealogical times (one to 15 generations). Should you have traditional genealogy records that indicate a relationship, then by testing additional individuals you will either prove or disprove the connection. A careful review of your genealogical records is also recommended.
Not Related	6	>7	>10	You are not related on your Y-chromosome lineage within recent or distant genealogical times (one to 15 generations).

- A. There was a second Shinabarger family, referred to as “**Kunkle Shinabargers**” by my mother’s generation, who lived around Kunkle, Madison Co. OH by the 1850s. It was thought their Lewis Shinabarger was related by marriage to Hannah Heller. “Hannah Heller, wife of Jacob Shinabarger of Valparaiso, IN, married into the Louis Shinabarger family somehow.”⁵ Lewis’s father was Peter Heller Shinabarger. A coincidence? **George Peter Shinabarger**, born in 1794 in PA around the Heller hometown, married a Marsh, and his grandfather may have been Johan Heinrich Schoneberger who came to the colonies to land in Philadelphia in 1764.

⁵ Viola Bergeron Shinabarger 1905-1975. Married the great grandson of George Peter Shinabarger.

DNA testing of a 3X great grandson shows he is not related.⁶ This male tested into the I-M253 Haplogroup. He cannot be related. However, there may be an anomaly in this test and a second test is being done to shed more light on any link with this Shinabarger family. There are too many similarities with this Kunkle family to yet write them off as our Shinabarger cousins. One autosomal test has supported the earlier findings of a lack of relationship. I would link to do one additional autosomal test as a final confirmation.

- B. **Michael Shinaberry** and family followed a similar path as Ashland John and lived in Mt. Vernon, Knox. Co. OH. Michael Shinaberry was born 1773 in VA and was “killed by a falling tree” in Knox Co. OH in 1809. Michael married Catherine Barnes in 1792 VA. Often, our Ashland John and Michael’s family are confused for one another. There is a theory that Michael’s father was John Shinaberry/Johann Schoenberg/Schoenberger. A son John Edward Shinaberry married Ruth Yoakum in 1816 in Knox. Co. The DNA tester and others of his lineage spell their surname SHINABERY.

Because of proximity and other similarities, it is reasonable conjecture that Michael is a cousin of Ashland John Shinabarger or possibly a sibling. Autosomal testing has linked these two families with at least 3 matches. Even more importantly, Y-DNA testing of a 4x great grandson of Michael indicates there is definite relationship with the family of Ashland John.⁷

This Michael Shinaberry 1773 descendant is a GD 6 when comparing 111 markers with a John Shinabarger 1764 descendant; he is even closer at GD 5 with Shinaberry men. Big-Y testing has been done and places him solidly in the same R-FT89571>FT165089 Haplogroup as the other S men.

FTDNA would predict these surnames to be related, sharing a MRCA within about the last 12-14 generations. This does move the common ancestor back to Europe but this is expected.

NOTE: When referring to Genetic Distance and interpreting the number of generations in the past when two males shared a common ancestor, Shinabarger and this Shinabery/Shinaberry have researched their family history back some 7 to 8 generations. This puts these male matches solidly in the range of sharing a common parent or grandparent and possibly as siblings or cousins born in the same decade in VA. This interpretation holds for the other S families discussed below.

NOTE: An interesting match is between this line and a descendant of Ryan David Israel. Shinabery matches Israel 64/67 markers for a GD of 3, closer than that of his S cousins. These two men are closely related in the last 8 generations. There has been a name change in this Israel family and they may share autosomal DNA with Cramer who may have married Michael Shinaberry’s son William. There is no doubt this person is related to Shinabery regardless of surname.

⁶ Earl

⁷ Rick

- C. There was a **Jacob Shinaberry Sr.** who was born in Pendleton Co. VA around 1760. Many descendants of this family remained in VA and WV, while others moved into Michigan. Jacob married Margaret Life and raised his family in and around Pendleton and Pocahontas counties in WV. This area is located in the territories that were once Virginia and later were divided to create parts of WV. They would be a part of the old Lord Fairfax Land Grant.

Autosomal testing has linked these two families with at least 8 matches.

DNA tests of a 3x great grandson of Jacob Sr. indicates he is definitely related.⁸ At 111 markers, Shinabarger and this Shinaberry are at a GD 6.

Big-Y testing places him within the same R-FT89571>FT165089 Haplogroup within which there is only one private variation among them.

At this time, I am conjecturing that Jacob. Sr. and Ashland John may share the same grandparent.

- D. **Michael Shanabarger Sr.** was born 1745 probably in MD. He is described as a son of Jacob and Anna Margareta Shoenberger.⁹ The family's descendants settled in Lucas, Richmond Co. OH by 1819. Before the Mount Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church was built, its first meetings were held in the home of Michael *Shinnebarger* and wife.¹⁰ The original log church was erected 1818 overlooking the valley of Black Fork a short distance from Lucas OH. This Michael Shanabarger family is commonly found in Mifflin, Richland, OH. It has been conjectured that Michael is related to "Ashland John."

Autosomal testing has linked these two families through two matches.

Testing both 5x and 6x great grandsons of Michael Shanabarger Sr. finds a DNA match with Shinabarger.¹¹ Big Y-700 testing has placed this Shanabarger within the same R-FT89571 Haplogroup with the others. FTDNA would predict these surnames to be related, sharing a MRCA within about the last 12-14 generations.

But, this tester has a variation which places Shanabarger in a separate category which, at this time, does not reflect the additional FT165089 SNP. See the Big-Y graph on page 9.

⁸ Lewis

⁹ Mrs. Wilson C. (Marjorie) Carb Jr., 1960s correspondence, Flint, MI. 4X great granddaughter to Michael Shanabarger Sr.

¹⁰ "History of Richland County, Ohio" compiled by A. A. Graham 1807-1880

¹¹ Sean and his father Paul. Paul tested 11/12 which indicated a need to test more markers.

- E. **Edmond William Schoneberger** – has tested but unable to locate the person. He compared 12/12 on FTDNA with Shinabarger at R-M269 which makes him a very good candidate. More testing would be wonderful in determining a relationship with the other S families.

Not only are these four families (John Shinabarger, Shinabery, Shinaberry, Shanabarger)¹² making solid DNA connections with our Shinabarger family but also with each other. For example, the descendant of Michael Shinaberry/Shinabery 1773 is a GD of 7 with the John Shinabarger 1764 descendant, but GD 5 with the Jacob Shinaberry 1760 descendant, and GD 7 with Michael Shanabarger 1745 descendant. The Shinaberry/Shinabery relationship seems closer in genetic distance and indicates they share a closer ancestor closer than the one shared with Shinabarger and Shanabarger.

For an example of a closer relationship, let's look at the genetic distance among three Shinabarger descendants, K, M, and TW. Family trees would make these males 5th cousins and 5C1R. When K is brought into the comparison, we find that he is a GD of 4 from these cousins. I would like to see a closer GD. Markers can change at any time, even father to son. However, a GD 4 is an uncomfortable distance for even 5th cousins. It seems to indicate that K's common ancestor is much further back in time than the MRCA of the other S men tested. More testing is needed.

Triangulating the shared autosomal matches along with the interpretation of the Y-DNA matches indicate that these four families are linked with a common ancestor in the past. It would appear this ancestor is approximately in the range of 7-9 generations ago. Are these S men siblings or cousins? There may be no way to determine this for sure. However, after years of conjecture, it is finally certain they do share an ancestor.

Alternately, there are Dozen S's families who have tested Y-DNA and are of different Haplogroups or of so few matching markers that they can be eliminated as patriarchs:

- a. The Nicholas Shambarger/Johannes "John" Schöenberger lineage has too few matching markers, 22/37, to be related in any recent genealogical times. Johan Nicholaus was b. 1762, Germany; d. 1813, Dauphin Co., PA; md. Barbara Schmid. This line is likely connected to Heinrich Schöenberger who was born about 1530 in Switzerland; his descendant Johannes "John" Schoenberger immigrated to the US, settling around Lehigh Co. PA in 1785. His Haplogroup is R-Z198 but his descendant matches just 73/111 markers and therefore not related in any genealogical time. (James and Patrick Shamberger tested with same results.) Too bad, as this family seems to have traced their ancestors back the furthest of most researchers. Big Y-700 results show him as being negative for our ZS312. This would mean that we have not shared an ancestor for over 10,000 years.
- b. Male Shenberger have tested. Two men who claim Balthasar Schoenberger/Shenberger as a patriarch (b. 1690; d. 1750). The men belong to the T-M70 haplogroup and are not related. (Bob and Lloyd Shenberger matched only 14/37 when compared to Shinabarger)
- c. A surname R. Schoeneberger has tested 28/67 and is Haplogroup G-M201, no relation.

¹² The current exception is the family of the Kunkle Shinabargers.

- d. A descendant of Hermann Schönberg has tested. (Heinz J. Schöneberg) Hermann b. 1683, Rheinbach, Germany; d. 1758, Heiden, Germany; m. Catharine Feuser. Tested R1b1 but just 40/67 match. Not related.
- e. Three men have tested who claim Heinrich Schönenberger (b. 1530, Switzerland; d. 1590; md. Barbel Egli. (Willard, Michael, Edwin Schoenberger) All place as R1b1 but poor matches on markers at 41/67 and 20/37. No relation.

3. A final goal is to discover from where and from whom John Shinabarger 1764 is descended.

Current DNA testing is assisting with this goal. Will it be possible to move our research back another generation and identify the *Elusive Patriarch* who emigrated to the American colonies in the early 1700s?

The possibility is there. Someday it may happen.

As more information becomes available, I will post updates to this report.

10/1/2020